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cease and desist order--this is a good one--would be subject to a penalty of not more than \$30,000 for each violation, not to exceed an aggregate of \$150,000, and the suspension or revocation of their license or certificate of authority. By the way, these penalties that are pulled out, they weren't just concocted. They came from the Unfair Insurance Claims Settlement Penalties (sic) Act, so they're not new to either the industry or the Department of Insurance. Section 9 excludes claims submitted before January 1, 2006. And finally, Section 10 authorizes the director of Insurance rule and regulation authority to carry out this act. Mr. President, that concludes my introduction. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Senator Mines, as Chairman of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments, AM0572.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, the committee amendment, AM0572, amends Section 2 and Section 4. In Section 2 it rewrites the definition of a clean claim and inserts a definition for a new form, claim form, and that simply clarifies that if an insurer does not have a standard printed or electronic transaction form, then a provider shall submit a claim on a form that complies with standards issued by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. It also amends Section 4 to say that the applicable time period within which a clean claim shall be paid, denied, or settled shall be tolled, or timed out, from the date additional information to resolve the claim is requested by the insurer, until the date the additional information is received by the insurer. It also says that a clean claim does not include a claim for which the insurer needs additional information to resolve issues concerning coverage or eligibility, coordination of benefits, investigation of preexisting conditions, subrogation, determination of medical necessity, or the use of unlisted procedural codes. Finally, it does amend Section 9 to provide that the act does not apply to policies that provide coverage for a specific disease, accident-only coverage, or other limited benefit coverage, as well as hospital indemnity coverage, disability coverage, Medicaid supplement coverage, and long-term care coverage, Mr. President. Thank you.